

## Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04

CEA-01 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 TAR-01 IO-10 CU-02 OES-03

AGR-05 EUR-12 /115 W

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R 111335Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9636

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPEXP, TS

SUBJ: US-TUNISIAN JOINT COMMISSION

REF: STATE 155609, STATE 162870, TUNIS 457, 4102, 4110,  
3958

1. EMBASSY HAS FORMALLY PROPOSED WEEK OF OCT 13 TO GOT  
AS CONVENIENT TIME FOR NEXT JOINT COMMISSION MEETING. WE  
HAVE DISCUSSED THESE DATES INFORMALLY WITH FORMIN AND  
MINPLAN, WHO FORESEE NO PROBLEMS ON PART GOT. ACCORDINGLY,  
SUGGEST UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON DEFINITELY PLAN ON THIS  
DATE.

2. WE BELIEVE MEETINGS WILL REQUIRE THREE DAYS. FIRST  
DAY WOULD BE DEVOTED TO SUB-COMMISSION MEETINGS,  
LEAVING TWO MORNINGS FOR PLENARY SESSION. AFTERNOONS  
COULD BE USED FOR INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS WITH GOT COUNTER-  
PARTS OF ATTENDING WASHINGTON OFFICIALS, FOLLOW-UPS OF  
PARTICULAR ITEMS RAISED IN JOINT COMMISSION AND FOR  
FAMILIARIZATION PURPOSES.

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3. WE PROPOSE THAT AGENDA FOLLOW LINES SET OUT IN TUNIS 457, APPROPRIATELY UPDATED. TRUNCATED INAUGURAL SESSION IN WASHINGTON DID NOT PERMIT FULL USE OF AGENDA AND BRIEFING MATERIALS PREPARED FOR THAT MEETING WHICH SHOULD THEREFORE BE A GOOD BASE FOR FIRST SUBSTANTIVE MEETING. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES WE PROPOSE FOLLOWING TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR PLENARY SESSION: (A) OPENING STATEMENTS BY CO-CHAIRMEN INCLUDING OVERALL REVIEW OF US-TUNISIAN RELATIONS; (B) REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMISSIONS (RE TRADE AND INVESTMENT SEE PARA 5; RE ECONOMIC COOPERATION SEE PARA 6); (C) SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION--REVIEW AND SIGNING OF MODEL AGREEMENT ON SFCP PROJECTS; (D) MILITARY ASSISTANCE--GENERAL REVIEW OF GOT MILITARY AUGMENTATION PROGRAM AND US ASSISTANCE; (E) CULTURAL COOPERATION; (F) MISCELLANEOUS. WE BELIEVE FULL DISCUSSION OF EACH AGENDA ITEM SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN TURN WITH POSSIBILITY OF RETURNING TO A SPECIFIC ISSUE AT THE CONCLUSION OF PLENARY MEETING.

4. RE LEVEL OF WASHINGTON ATTENDANCE, WE VERY PLEASED THAT U/SEC ROBINSON WILL SERVE AS US CHAIRMAN. WE ALSO GRATIFIED THAT HOSTLER OF COMMERCE CAN PARTICIPATE. WE PROPOSE ADDITIONAL ATTENDANCE BY ATHERTON OR SAUNDERS (NEA), NOOTER (AID) AND NOYES (DOD). WE WILL SEEK TO FURTHER CLARIFY TUNISIAN PARTICIPANTS.

5. TOPICS OUTLINED STATE 155609 FOR SUB-COMMISSION ON TRADE AND INVESTMENT SEEM TO PROVIDE MORE THAN ADEQUATE BASIS FOR AGENDA. EMBASSY BELIEVES GOT WILL PLACE PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON POTENTIAL OLIVE OIL MARKETING IN US GIVEN CURRENT DIFFICULTIES WITH EEC (TUNIS 4110). EVALUATION OF AGRI-BUSINESS INVESTMENT POSSIBILITIES (TUNIS 4102) SHOULD BE SUFFICIENTLY DEVELOPED BY OCT TO PERMIT USEFUL DISCUSSION DURING JOINT COMMISSION. LIKELY THAT INITIAL MEETING OF EXPERTS ON DOUBLE TAXATION TREATY WILL HAVE BEEN HELD PRIOR TO J.C. REQUEST DEPT CLARIFY REFERENCE TO QUOTE EXCHANGE OF PAPERS UNQUOTE IN PARA 4 STATE 155609.

6. RE SUBCOMMISSION ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION, EMBASSY CONSIDERS THIS TITLE MORE APPROPRIATE FOR PURPOSE DESIRED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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(I.E., DISCUSSION OF AID RELATIONSHIP) THAN TITLE SUBCOMMISSION ON DEVELOPMENT. US PARTICIPATION IN TUNISIAN "DEVELOPMENT" ENCOMPASSES NOT ONLY ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE BUT ALSO INVESTMENT, TRADE, SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, VOLUNTARY AGENCY ACTIVITIES AND PEACE CORPS.

7. RE TOPICS GOT WILL WISH TO FOCUS ON, MIN PLAN ZAAOUNI HAS INFORMED AID DIRECTOR JAMES THAT GOT WILL CONCENTRATE

ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY PLANNING DURING DISCUSSION  
OF US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. WE WILL SEEK TO ELICIT  
FURTHER INFORMATION FROM GOT REGARDING OTHER SUBJECTS OF  
SPECIAL INTEREST.  
SEELYE

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